

# APA Style for Citing Print Sources

In-text citation example:  
(Author(s), Year)\*  
(Smith & Li, 2000)

Here are selected examples of APA style for citing sources. For additional examples, see the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (Sixth Edition, 2010), also known as the APA Style Manual.

- In all cases, when no author is given, begin with the title and move the date after the title.
- Always use initials, not first or middle names, of authors.
- Reference lists should be double-spaced, like the first example below.
  - All other examples on this sheet are single-spaced to limit the length of this guide.

## Journal article:

Saywitz, K. J., Mannarino, A. P., Berliner, L., & Cohen, J. A. (2000). Treatment for sexually abused children and adolescents. *American Psychologist*, 55, 1040-1049.

- Italicize the journal title and volume number.
- If the journal paginates each issue separately, add an issue number in parentheses:

Klimoski, R., & Palmer, S. (1993). The ADA and the hiring process in organizations. *Consulting Psychology Journal: Practice and Research*, 45(2), 10-36.

## Magazine article:

Kandel, E. R., & Squire, L. R. (2000, November 10). Neuroscience: Breaking down scientific barriers to the study of brain and mind. *Science*, 290, 1113-1120.

## Daily newspaper article (example has no author):

New drug appears to sharply cut risk of death from heart failure. (1993, July 15). *The Washington Post*, p. A12.

- If an article appears on discontinuous pages, give all page numbers, and separate the numbers with a comma (e.g., pp. B1, B3, B5-B7).

## Book:

Mitchell, T. R., & Larson, J. R., Jr. (1987). *People in organizations: An introduction to organizational behavior* (3rd ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill.

## Book chapter:

Haybron, D. M. (2008). Philosophy and the science of subjective well-being. In M. Eid & R. J. Larsen (Eds.), *The science of subjective well-being* (pp. 17-43). New York, NY: Guilford Press.

## Entry in an encyclopedia:

Miller, C. (2002). Informed consent. In M. Herzen & W. Sledge (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of psychotherapy* (Vol. 2, pp. 17-24). San Diego, CA: Elsevier Science.

- If an entry has no byline, place the entry title in the author position.

## Report available from the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC):

Mead, J. V. (1992). *Looking at old photographs: Investigating the teacher tales that novice teachers bring with them* (Report No. NCRTL-RR-92-4). East Lansing, MI: National Center for Research on Teacher Learning. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED346082)

- Do not use a period after the document number.

## \*Notes on In-Text Citations:

- For a direct quotation, include the page number of the quote: (Jones, 2007, p. 27).
- If no author, in the text cite the first few words of the reference list entry (usually the title) and the year. Use double quotation marks around the title or abbreviated title: ("New Drug Appears," 1993).

# Citing Web and Database Sources in APA Style

**When citing an entire website,** it is sufficient to give the address of the site in just the text. Example: Kidspsych is a wonderful interactive website for children (<http://www.kidspsych.org>).

**Page within a web site (unknown author):**

Global warming solutions. (2007, May 21). In *Union of Concerned Scientists*. Retrieved February 29, 2008, from [http://www.ucsusa.org/global\\_warming/solutions](http://www.ucsusa.org/global_warming/solutions)

- If the author of a document is not identified, begin the reference with the title of the document.

**Stand-alone document (unknown author):**

New child vaccine gets funding boost. (2001). Retrieved March 21, 2001, from [http://news.ninemsn.com.au/health/story\\_13178.asp](http://news.ninemsn.com.au/health/story_13178.asp)

**U.S. government report available on government agency Web site:**

United States Department of Labor. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2009, July 17) *Economic news release: Regional and state employment and unemployment (monthly)*. Retrieved August 3, 2009, from <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/laus.toc.htm>

**For articles found on the web or in an electronic database:**

- Place the article DOI (digital object identifier), if available, at the end of the reference.
  - DOIs are provided by many scholarly publishers for articles and other documents.
- If there is no DOI, cite the home page URL or the database name.
- Do not put a period after either the DOI or the URL.
- Since DOIs and database sources are stable, do not add a retrieval date.
- When providing a URL, include retrieval dates only if the source material may change over time, e.g., for web pages or wikis (see above examples).

**DOI example:**

Herbst-Damm, K. L., & Kulik, J. A. (2005). Volunteer support, marital status, and the survival times of terminally ill patients. *Health Psychology, 24*, 225-229. doi:10.1037/0278-6133.24.2.225

**URL example of a journal article:**

Wheeler, D. P., & Bragin, M. (2007). Bringing it all back home: Social work and the challenge of returning veterans. *Health and Social Work, 32*, 297-300. Retrieved from <http://naswpressonline.org>

**Database examples (if no DOI is given):**

**1) Scholarly journal article from ProQuest:**

Bell, L. G., Bell, D. C., & Nakata, Y. (2001). Triangulation and adolescent development in the U.S. and Japan. *Family Process 40*, 173-186. Retrieved from ProQuest database.

**2) Newspaper article from ProQuest:**

Simon, R., & Ford, C. M. (2009, July 25). U.S. news: Consumer-debt picture shows one sign of improvement. *Wall Street Journal* (Eastern edition), p. A4. Retrieved from ProQuest database.

**3) Entry in an online encyclopedia:**

Barnett, T., & Droege, S. B. (2006). Theory x and theory y. In M. M. Helms (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of management* (5<sup>th</sup> ed., pp. 911-914). Detroit: Gale. Retrieved from Gale Virtual Reference Library database.

## Overall APA Reference List Page Formatting

Entries go in alphabetical order by first author's last name. Don't group entries by type or year or anything else. Just put them in regular alphabetical order. (Don't rearrange authors names within a single entry if there are two or more authors. The first author is always the *primary* author; authors are listed in order of the rank. Don't change that order.)

The full reference list is double-spaced, with no extra space between entries. Don't single space unless your professor specifically instructs you to do that.

The first line of each entry uses the full line across the page, from the left margin through to the right.

The second and subsequent lines of each entry take a hanging indent of ½ inch. (Hint: Use the "hanging" indent feature under "special" in the "indentation" block of the paragraph item under "Format" in the pull-down menu on Word.)

Capitalization of titles in APA does not necessarily go the way the publication you used has it. Article titles take a cap only for the first word; the first word after a colon, which indicates a subtitle; and for proper nouns (names of places, people, companies, and things like brand names).

Continue numbering pages consecutively from the cover sheet, if you have one, or first page right through the reference list to the end of your paper. Page numbers in APA Style go in the upper margin on the right hand side, with a running head that indicates your topic and us usually a piece of your title. (Hint: Use the "Header and Footer" function from "View" in the drop-down menu in Word.)

APA Style uses plain or "regular" letters, and italics. It does not use bold type in a reference list. It does not use underlining.

APA Style calls for Times New Roman lettering in 10 or 12 points (12 point is generally preferred by your profs.) Don't use a different font or size in your reference list. Don't use any different fonts or sizes in the body text of your paper unless they've been approved by your prof.

A URL is not a reference list entry. It's not an in-text citation either. It's only an address and provides almost none of the specific identifying information required for proper credit-giving in any form, APA Style or other. Never should you have an item in your paper or on your reference list that reads like this: [www.bicycling.com](http://www.bicycling.com).

Please note that many sources accessed from the open Internet (not through a database) are of questionable reliability. Be sure to check the credibility of your sources.